**Build It in Parts**

(Adapted from Van de Walle, Teaching Developmentally 7e, 2010, Pearson Education)

Provide children with one type of material, such as connecting cubes or squares of colored paper. The task is to see how many different combinations for a particular number they can make using two parts. (If you wish, you can allow for more than two parts.) Each different combination can be displayed on a small mat, such as a quarter-sheet of construction paper. Here are just a few ideas:

* Use two-color counters such as lima beans painted on one side (also available in plastic).
* Make bars of connecting cubes. Make each bar with 2 colors. Keep the colors connected together.
* Make combinations using two dot strips – strips of poster board about 1 inch wide with stick-on dots. (Make lots of strips with 1-4 dots and fewer strips with 5-10 dots.)
* Make combinations of 2 Cuisenaire rods to match a given amount.

Materials Needed:

* Counting material (beans, squares of paper, cubes, etc.) in 2 colors
* Work Mat

**Build It in Parts Work Mat**

**Picture**

**Number Combination/Sentence or Equation**